

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT CHARLES W. YOST'S EDITORIAL, MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, "PRIORITY: GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCY."

2. CRYSTAL BALLS ARE CLOUDED AND PREDICTING THE FUTURE, EVEN ONLY A YEAR AHEAD, IS HAZARDOUS BUSINESS. WHO AT THE BEGINNING OF 1973 WOULD HAVE PREDICTED THE OIL EMBARGO AT ITS END? SOME TOTALLY UNFORESEEN EVENT MAY DOMINATE THE HISTORY OF 1975.

3. NEVERTHELESS, IF ONE WERE TO ATTEMPT TODAY TO IDENTIFY THE HIGHEST PRIORITIES ON THE AGENDA IN THE COMING YEAR FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE, I SHOULD PUT FOUR PROBLEMS AT THE TOP OF THE LIST AND MENTION FIVE MORE AS POTENTIAL TIME BOMBS.

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4. THE FIRST IS SO UNIVERSAL IN ITS SCOPE THAT NO NATION,

ALMOST NO HUMAN BEING, CAN ESCAPE ITS IMPACT. IT IS THE COMPLEX OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCIES WHICH IN THE PAST HAS FUNCTIONED SO SMOOTHLY FOR THE CITIZENS OF AFFLUENT NATIONS THAT THEY WERE BARELY CONSCIOUS OF ITS BENIGN EXISTENCE. CITIZENS OF POOR NATIONS HAVE LONG BEEN AWARE THAT THESE DEPENDENCIES USUALLY WORKED TO THEIR DIS-

ADVANTAGE, BUT IT IS ONLY RECENTLY THAT THEY HAVE BEGUN TO BE ABLE TO TAKE COUNTER-ACTION, THAT IS, AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT, TO MAKE THINGS SOMEWHAT WORSE FOR ALL BUT A FEW.

5. THE INTRICATE NET OF ECONOMIC ISSUES, IN WHICH THE NATIONS FIND THEMSELVES ENTANGLED LIKE LAOCOON BY THE SERPENTS, INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

(A) INFLATION, SHADING INTO RECESSION, WHICH, IF NOT PROMPTLY TREATED, COULD TUMBLE MUCH OF THE WORLD BACK INTO THE 1930'S.

(B) THE SHRINKING, BOTH PHYSICAL AND CONTRIVED OF ENERGY SOURCES, WHICH REQUIRES DRASTIC AND PAINFUL CONSERVATION OF OIL, EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE AMONG BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MASSIVE RECYCLING OF THE FLOOD OF PETRODOLLARS SWAMPING THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM AND, MOST IMPORTANT, CONSTRUCTIVE COLLABORATION TO THESE ENDS AMONG PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS OF FUEL.

(C) PROVISION OF FOOD TO MEET IMMEDIATE FAMINE AND VERY SUBSTANTIAL EXPANSION OF FOOD AND FERTILIZER PRODUCTION IN BOTH RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES TO KEEP PACE WITH POPULATION GROWTH.

(D) A MUCH MORE CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTION BY THE RICH COUNTRIES, OLD AND NEW, TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE POOR, NOT SIMPLY OUT OF PHILANTHROPY BUT TO INSURE THAT IN A MORE INTERDEPENDENT WORLD THE DESPERATE POOR DO NOT ULTIMATELY DRAG DOWN THE COMPLACENT RICH.

(E) THE UNDERTAKING BY THE POPULOUS DEVELOPING COUN-

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TRIES OF A FAR MORE VIGOROUS ATTACK ON THEIR LUNATIC RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH, WHICH IF UNCHECKED WILL RENDER USELESS ALL EFFORTS ON THEIR BEHALF.

(F) FINALLY, A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE FIVE-YEAR LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT WHICH THE OCEANS--THREE-QUARTERS OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE--MAY SOON BECOME AN ARENA FOR THE MOST UNBRIDLED AND DISRUPTIVE NATIONAL

RIVALRIES.

6. THIS COMPLEX OF ECONOMIC ISSUES SHOULD CONSTITUTE THE NO. 1 ITEM ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S AGENDA FOR 1975. DEALING WITH THEM WILL REQUIRE, MOREOVER, NOT INDIVIDUAL PRESTIDIGITATION, NOT SHORT-TERM MIRACLES OF BILATERAL DIPLOMACY, NOR THE CREATION OF "POSITIONS OF STRENGTH,"

BUT RATHER THE SOLID REINFORCEMENT OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS EXPERIENCED IN DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF THIS NATURE.

7. THE SECOND ITEM ON THE FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA FOR 1975 MUST BE THE MIDDLE EAST, BECAUSE IT IS THE LIKELY THEATRE OF A NEW WAR AND BECAUSE SUCH A WAR, BEYOND DEVASTATING THE PARTICIPANTS, WOULD PROVOKE A NEW OIL EMBARGO AND DISRUPT U.S.-SOVIET DETENTE. IN THIS WORSENING CRISIS IT IS TOO LATE FOR PARTIAL MEASURES. THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST MUST BE REASSEMBLED, MUTUAL RECOGNITION BROUGHT ABOUT BETWEEN ISRAELI AND PALESTINIANS, NEGOTIATIONS EXPEDITED IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY, AND A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT WORKED OUT.

8. THE THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA SHOULD BE, SINCE THE CLIMATE OF MANY OF THE OTHER PROBLEMS DEPENDS UPON IT, MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM OF DETENTE BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES. THIS MOMENTUM CAN BE MOST READILY PRESERVED NOT BY COSMETIC OR PERIPHERAL AGREEMENTS, BUT BY FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE CORE OF THEIR CONFRONTATION: MUCH MORE SERIOUS AND SPEEDIER STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTIONS, A BEGINNING OF MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE, SOME CHECK ON THEIR SPIRALING AND SENSELESS NAVAL COMPETITION. SISCO

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